

## **FAQs – Summer Youth Employment Program in Erie County**

### **How is the Summer Youth Employment Program Funded (SYEP) funded?**

The State Fiscal Year 2021-22 New York State Enacted Budget appropriates Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to support the 2021 New York State Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP).

Since 2005, OTDA has administered the SYEP and has allocated funds to each district to provide summer employment opportunities for youth throughout the State.

### **What are the worksite requirements?**

Employers interested in providing opportunities for youth placements through the SYEP must complete a Worksite Application form and enter into a worksite agreement with Buffalo Urban League.

The worksite must adopt sexual harassment prevention policy in compliance with NYS requirements.

The worksite must maintain a minimum ratio of 1 supervisor to 10 youth workers.

Youth workers must not displace any current employees.

### **Who pays the youth workers?**

Youth participants receive above the State minimum wage of \$12.50 per hour paid directly to them by the SYEP community agency. Youth will be covered under the SYEP community agency's Workers' Compensation.

### **How will a worksite know if they are selected to participate as a host site?**

Worksites will be notified by community agency when all required documentation has been completed.

Worksite representative must also attend a mandatory orientation to participate.

Efforts will be made to match a youth with sites that are accepted into the program.

### **What are the program eligibility requirements for youth?**

- Erie County Resident
- Age 14-20 years old
- Meet income eligibility guidelines-200% Federal Poverty Level or the youth applicant receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Original Working Papers are required for all youth ages 14-17 years old, and they must be submitted at the SYEP interview. Working Paper applications can be obtained at school through the school Guidance Counselor.

### **How are youth selected to participate?**

Program slots are limited. Placement will be based on youth circumstances and household income.

**Will the youth earnings affect Social Service Program benefits?**

Income earned from the Summer Youth Employment Program affects benefits as follows:

**Temporary Assistance (TA)**

- SYEP participant is a TA household member - the SYEP income is not budgeted.
- SYEP participant is a TA head of household - the SYEP income must be reported timely and would be budgeted.

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

- SYEP participant is a SNAP household member - for youth ages of 18-20 years old, the SYEP income must be disclosed at the next case recertification. The SYEP income is exempt until the month after the individual turns 18 years old.
- SYEP participant is a SNAP head of household - the SYEP income must be reported timely and would be budgeted.

**Medicaid**

- SYEP participant is a MA household member - the SYEP income is not budgeted.
- SYEP participant is a MA head of household - the SYEP income would not be budgeted under Medicaid MAGI rules.

**Child Care Assistance**

- SYEP participant is a household member but not included in the Child Care Service Unit Case - the SYEP income is not budgeted.
- SYEP participant is a parent of a child in the Child Care Service Unit – the SYEP income must be reported timely and would be budgeted

